

sliding the item through the narrow opening of the flared section, through the tube section, and within the receptacle,

wherein the item is a rolled, elongated sheet of material that is rolled such that a terminal edge of the elongated sheet is located on an exterior surface of the rolled item, and

wherein said method further comprises the step of rotating the item as the item is inserted within the flared section, where the item is rotated in a direction opposite a direction of rolling of the item such that the terminal edge of the elongated sheet is maintained flat against the exterior surface of the rolled item.

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3. (Once Amended) A method for inserting an item that is a rolled, elongated sheet of material into a receptacle using an apparatus having a hollow tube section having a first opening and a second opening and a hollow flared section having a narrow opening and a wide opening, the narrow opening being connected to the first opening, said method comprising the steps of:

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positioning a receptacle over an exterior surface of the tube section adjacent the second opening;

inserting the item within the flared section via the wide opening; and

sliding the item through the narrow opening of the flared section, through the tube section, and within the receptacle,

wherein said method further comprises the step of rotating the item as the item is inserted within the flared section.

4. (Once Amended) A method for inserting an item that is a rolled, elongated sheet of material into a receptacle using an apparatus having a hollow tube section having a first opening and a second opening and a hollow flared section having a narrow opening and a